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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/975,214 11/20/97 KOHNO

A 1232-4391

EXAMINER

LM02/0902

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345 PARK AVENUE  
NEW YORK NY 10154

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2741

DATE MAILED:

09/02/99

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**08/975,214**

Applicant(s)  
**Kohno**

Examiner  
**Michael N. Opsasnick**

Group Art Unit  
**2741**



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 20, 1997

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

## Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-76 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

## Application Papers

☒ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been  
☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

## Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

Art Unit: 2741

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Specification*

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 3, lines 5-7, the language "the image" is in improper format. In the appropriate places, please remove the word "the".

On page 4-6, in the Brief Descriptions of the Drawings, the description for Figs. 1,2,9-15, and 25-27 are inadequate. Please include a brief description of the drawing, however brief it may be.

Appropriate correction is required.

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Art Unit: 2741

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

- (1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;
- (2) if an article, its method of making;
- (3) if a chemical compound, its identity and use;
- (4) if a mixture, its ingredients;
- (5) if a process, the steps.

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

3. Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 250 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 250 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Art Unit: 2741

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 71 and 75 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claims 71 and 75, examiner wishes to know how does one take a picture of a temperature ? Is it a picture of a thermometer showing temperature ? Is it a thermal image ? Is it an image or photograph ?

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. Claims 1-76 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kitahara et al (5745711) in view of Allen et al (5737491).

Art Unit: 2741

As per claims 1,11,14,21,24,34,37,44,46-50,51,53,60-63,67-69,73, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches a communication system comprising a transmission apparatus for transmitting an image and a voice to be added to the image, and a reception apparatus for receiving the image and the voice, wherein:

“said transmission apparatus comprises transmission means....the image and the voice....apparatus” as teleconferencing system transmitting both image and voice data (col. 5 lines 24-29; col. 5, lines 39-53;

“said reception apparatus comprises control means.....causing predetermined display means to display the controlled image” as control module controlling both the image data and the corresponding audio data (col. 14, lines 44-62)

Kitahara et al (5745711) does not explicitly teaches the control of the image data based on the voice transmitted, however, Allen et al (5737491) teaches image (and image server control) based on transmitted corresponding voice signal (Allen et al (5737491), col. 1 lines 40-52). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art of audio/video transmission to improve upon the invention as taught by Kitahara et al (5745711) with voice controlled image processing commands because it would advantageously provide control of the image files from a remote location (or from the sending location; Allen et al (5737491), col. 1 lines 24-34).

Art Unit: 2741

As per claims 2,15,22,25,38,45, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“said one reception apparatus is connected to said plural transmission apparatuses to be able to selectively receive the image or the voice” as multiple conferees all linked on the same teleconferencing system (Fig. 14, col. 15 lines 30-50).

As per claims 3,23,26,27,59,64-66, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“said control means causes said predetermined display means to display each of the images transmitted from said plural transmission apparatuses” as window having the ability to display the multiple inputs (col. 15 lines 39-45);

As per claims 4,64-66, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein said reception apparatus comprises said predetermined display means” as window having the ability to display the multiple inputs (col. 15 lines 39-45).

As per claims 5,14, 17,27,28,40,45,52,54,56,57,60-63,67,68, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein said control means emphasizes the image transmitted from said transmission apparatus, in accordance with contents of the voice transmitted from said transmission apparatus” as image is emphasized and is continued to be emphasized until the voice sound is stopped -- at this point the image is de-emphasized (col. 16 lines 24-31)

Art Unit: 2741

As per claims 6,7,29,30,58, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein the emphasizing is to enlarge the image”, “wherein the emphasizing is to emphasize an outer frame of the image” as controlling the space of the image (col. 3 lines 34-40);

As per claims 8, 19,31, and 42, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein said reception apparatus comprises a speaker for outputting the voice” as speaker output (fig. 27, subblock 907).

As per claims 9, 16, 18, 32, 39, 41, and 52, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein said control means control a voice level of the voice transmitted from the predetermined transmission apparatus, in accordance with contents to the voices transmitted from said plural transmission apparatuses” as voice level control of the window containing the selected image (col. 20 line 52 - col. 21 line 8).

As per claims 10,20,33,43,70 and 74, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches:

“wherein said control means controls resolution of the image transmitted from said transmission apparatus, in accordance with contents of the voice transmitted by said transmission



Art Unit: 2741

apparatus” by changing the focus (resolution) of the image based on speaker location (col. 16 line 39 - col. 17 line 30).

As per claims 12,13,35,36, 69, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches both a still image (photograph) and moving images (col. 13, lines 61 and col. 14 lines 1-6).

As per claims 55 and 73, Kitahara et al (5745711) teaches memory means for the image data (col. 6 lines 4-24). It is old and well known in the art of image processing that the amount of image data to be either transmitted or displayed is controlled by the memory capability of the system.

As per claims 72 and 76, it is old and well known in the art of image processing to have temperature sensors attached with image processors (cameras) because varying ranges of temperatures can have an adverse affect on image quality and therefore it would be advantageous to have such a feature because it would allow the user to monitor/control image quality.

Art Unit: 2741

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Masunaga et al (5742329) teaches image memory measurement means, voice direction detection and camera/image control, still and moving images.

Chida (5640195)

Barker (5538255)

10. **Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

Art Unit: 2741

(703) 305-9508 (for informal or draft communications, please label  
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")


Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA.,  
Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Opsasnick, telephone number (703)305-4089, who is available Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. David R. Hudspeth, can be reached at (703)308-4825. The facsimile phone number for this group is (703)305-9508.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this applications should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

August 23, 1998

  
DAVID R. HUDSPETH  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
GROUP 2700